

# Momentum

define: Momentum, Impulse, law of conservation of momentum, elastic collision, inelastic collision

Momentum: for an object with mass,  $p = \text{mass} \times \text{velocity}$

$p = mv$  units: kgm/s

(electromagnetic radiation  $p = h/\lambda = hf/c$ )

Impulse:  $\Delta p = F_{\text{net}} \Delta t$  change in momentum caused by the net force action over a period of time.  $F_{\text{net}} = ma = m \Delta v / \Delta t = \Delta p / \Delta t$  kgm/s or Ns  
 $F_{\text{net}} = ma$  is not valid for changing mass problems: snow accumulating problems, rockets, relativistic but  $\Delta p = F_{\text{net}} \Delta t$  is valid because people can use the calculus to find the area under the F-t graph

Law of conservation of momentum:

The vector sum of the momentum of all the particles in a system is conserved through collisions and explosions if the system is closed and isolation (no objects in/out no external unbalanced forces)

explosion - energy put into the system

elastic - bounce off (might mean perfectly elastic)

perfectly elastic collision - the sum of the kinetic energies (not a vector) is conserved

inelastic - stick together

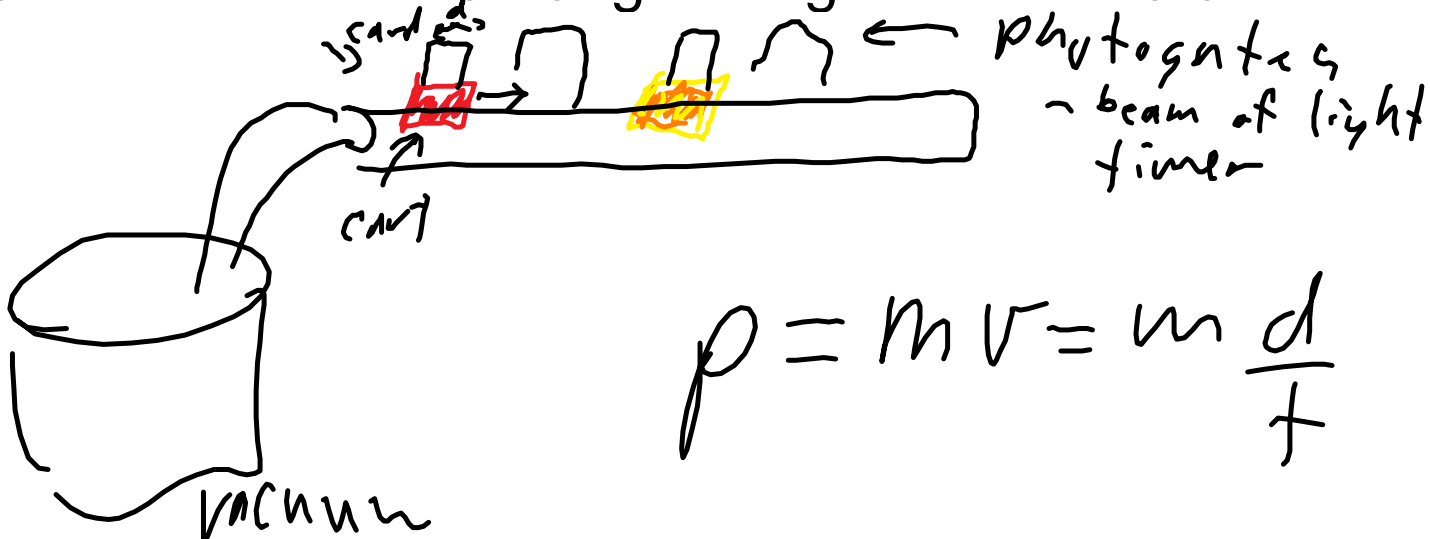
eg. 1. A 1.0kg cart and a 2.0 kg cart have a spring between them and are at rest. You let them go and the 1.0 kg cart moves off at 4.0 m/s after pushing on the 2.0kg cart for 0.40s.

- what's the momentum of the system before and after?
- what's the velocity of the 2.0kg cart after?
- what's the average force on each cart?
- if the force decreases linearly with time, sketch a F-t graph (area under the graph = impulse)

2. On an air track a red cart mass

Red cart: mass: 41.59g Length of card: 5.9cm

Gold cart: mass: 84.34g Length of card: 8.3cm



part 1. red cart hits the yellow cart and stick together.

time red before: 0.0377s time gold after 0.1820

time red after:  $0.1269\text{s}$

part 2 red cart hits the yellow cart and bounces back

time red before:  $0.0438\text{s}$  time gold after

$0.1123\text{s}$  time red after:  $0.3047\text{s}$

determine if momentum and kinetic energy are conserved in each collision

p168 problems: 7, 15, 17